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MANCHESTER MAN WHO
JUMPED BAIL APPREHENDED IN CANADA

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE – United States Attorney Tom Colantuono reports that yesterday, 40 year-old Arninder Singh was arraigned in U.S. District Court in Concord on a charge of failing to appear for a sentencing hearing one year ago. An indictment against Singh alleges that he had been released on personal recognizance bail pending a sentencing hearing after pleading guilty to naturalization fraud. The hearing was scheduled for June 1, 2005, but Singh is charged with failing to appear in federal court to be sentenced.

As a result of an investigation conducted by the United States Marshals Service with the cooperation of Canadian authorities, Singh was apprehended several weeks ago in the Toronto area. He was recently deported to the United States by Canada and was taken into custody by the United States Marshals Service.

Singh is charged with failing to appear at a hearing at which he was to be sentenced after pleading guilty to naturalization fraud. That charge involved false statements made by Singh in order to become naturalized as a United States citizen. Singh was granted United States citizenship on January 11, 1999, when he took the oath of citizenship in a ceremony at the United States District Court in Concord, New Hampshire. Several years earlier, however, on August 31, 1993, Singh had been deported from the United States to India under the alias "Kuldip Singh." When he applied for United States citizenship, Singh falsely stated under oath that he had never been deported. Singh was scheduled to be sentenced for this crime last June, when he allegedly failed to appear in court.

If convicted of failing to appear, Singh faces a maximum prison sentence of five years and a maximum fine of \$250,000. Singh also faces a potential ten-year prison term and a maximum fine of \$250,000 for naturalization fraud.

At Singh's arraignment yesterday he was ordered detained pending trial on the failure to appear charge. His trial is scheduled for August 1, 2006.

An indictment is only an allegation and not proof of criminal conduct. As in all criminal cases, the defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

This case is being investigated by the United States Marshals Service and the Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement. It is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Mark S. Zuckerman.

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